

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)
SUBJECT Medical Facilities in Kherson

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PLACE ACQUIRED REFERENCES

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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SOURCE:

1. Kherson (N 46-40, E 32-35), situated on the right bank of the Dnepr River, had a population of about 200,000 in 1948, when the last census was taken. The city had the following hospitals:
 - a. Oblast Hospital (Oblastnaya Bolnitsa, known also to people as the Bogougodnaya). This hospital received patients from the city and oblast. It had all types of medical services available, including a section for infectious diseases (this section also accepted tuberculosis patients). The hospital consisted of several brick-stone and concrete buildings painted a cream color. (The hospital center is shown on page 5, point #1). Approximately 100 beds were available. The Oblast Hospital also had a polyclinic in a separate building within the hospital quarter.
 - b. The Water Transport Workers' Hospital (Vodnikov Bolnitsa). This hospital and a polyclinic occupied two buildings on Bogorodinskaya Ulitsa (see page 5, point #2). Approximately 200 beds were available here.
 - c. The Hospital for Railroad Employees (Bolnitsa Zheleznodorozhnaya). It also had its own polyclinic, and an approximate bed capacity of 300 (see page 5, point #4).

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- d. The Military Hospital (Voyenny Hospital) was located in a red brick building on Perekopskaya Ulitsa, one block from Prospekt Ushakova; its bed capacity was 100. See page 5, Point 9
 - e. The Psychiatric Hospital (Psikh-Bolnitsa) was separate but in the same quarter as the Oblast Hospital.
2. In addition to these hospitals, the city had a tuberculosis dispensary (Tubdispanser) see page 5, Point 5, a malaria station (Protiv-Malyariynaya Stantsiya) see page 5, Point 6 - its approximate location, and three separate polyclinics.
 3. Polyclinic No. 3 was located in downtown Kherson see page 5, Point 3; a second polyclinic was located in the "Voyennaya" section of Kherson see page 5, Point 7; a third polyclinic was located in the "Zabalka" section of the city, but, since I know little about this section of Kherson, I cannot give its location. The "Zabalka" section of Kherson was a bandit-ridden section into which few citizens dared to venture. There was also a Maternity Hospital, (Rodil'nyy Dom), which had a pediatrics clinic (Detskaya Konsultatsiya). It was located in the area near the Oblast Hospital.
 4. I do not recall that Kherson had a special hospital or station for infectious diseases, other than the sections for infectious disease at the various hospitals.
 5. Emergency aid for sudden illness or accidents could be summoned by telephoning to a hospital. An ambulance would then be immediately dispatched with an attending physician. If required, the ambulance physician was empowered to bring the patient directly to a hospital.
 6. Kherson polyclinic patients reported to the reception room of a polyclinic, (priemnoye otdeleniye), at the reception clerk's desk (registratura). Each patient was then assigned a registration number which was to be retained for future visits to the polyclinic. After having seen an internal disease specialist, the patient was given a prescription, or, if his case demanded hospitalization, the patient was given an entrance slip (napravleniye) for admission to a hospital; admission to a hospital was impossible without this slip. Ambulance physicians could also prepare this entrance slip.
 7. Each larger factory in the city had a small dispensary with a physician or medical assistant (feldsher) on duty. Industrial employees received on-the-job medical assistance at these factory dispensaries. Workers were permitted to have sick-leave with pay only if their sickness was officially recognized in a government ordinance (bolnichnyy list) which gave the names of diseases or injuries for which sick leave with pay compensation would be granted. Members of the factory dispensary staff regularly referred a patient to the polyclinics for consultation in order to avoid responsibility.
 8. Kherson had a doctors' building (Dom Medika) located near the intersection of Suvorovskaya and Kommunarov Streets, where lectures on public health topics were given by medical personnel, and offices displayed hygiene-and sanitation-promoting placards.
 9. Very little social service was performed by employees of the Kherson Health office. I believe this group showed no interest whatsoever in the follow-up of patients with infectious diseases, and I regard as almost laughable the idea that the Health Office had any humanitarian interest in the welfare of Kherson's citizens. No non-governmental health organizations existed in Kherson. The

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Red Cross and Red Crescent Society was a government-sponsored organization, in which membership was voluntary. Practically all medical and allied personnel belonged to this society. Dues were 20-30 kopecks per month. Members were expected to popularize sanitation and hygiene, and assist at various clinics.

10. Children were given routine immunizations against smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, and tuberculosis (BCG). Adults must be immunized against typhoid, paratyphoid, and cholera; this immunization was administered in a "trivaktsina" (trivaccine) once a year. Ration cards could not be obtained without a ticket from a physician indicating that the vaccine had been received. I do not know where this vaccine was made; [redacted]

[redacted] I recall seeing a serum (privivka delbetin(?)) used by Soviet physicians to produce an artificial temperature when treating staphylococcus infections of the skin, e.g. furuncles.

11. Medical assistants (Feldshera) employed in dispensaries received their orders from physicians. The duties of a medical assistant were outlined in a handbook (Meditsinskiy Spravochnik dlya Feldshera) which listed the prescriptions which he could write and the nature of the tasks permitted him; he was permitted to lance furuncles, to perform intravenous injections, and to dress wounds. The medical assistant could not operate nor diagnose any illnesses unless he were assigned alone to a small village, in which case his diagnosis had to be labelled "provisional". Treatment of skin diseases, such as scabies, was also allowed the medical assistants. For a more detailed description of "Feldsher's" duties, [redacted]

25X1A [redacted] "Naval Medical Personnel"

Schools for Medical-Allied Personnel

12. There were no medical schools in Kherson; students from Kherson attended medical schools in Odessa, Poltava, Kharkov, Dnepropetrovsk, or Kiev (the latter city had two medical institutes). It was possible for students with financial support and Communist background to attend medical school in Moscow or Leningrad.
13. I do not know the number of physicians available in Kherson. There was a shortage of physicians [redacted] in 1952. Graduates of medical schools in the European USSR were being assigned to posts in the Far East for several years (but they rarely returned to western USSR). I recall the names of three physicians in Kherson: Candidate of Medical Science (fnu) YURCHENKO, Therapist and Phthisis Specialist (Terapevt i Fiziater) (fnu) KAMENSKIY, and Stomatologist (Stomatolog) (fnu) MALT. There was no shortage of medical auxiliary personnel (Feldshers, midwives, and nurses) in Kherson.
14. Kherson had a school for Feldshera and midwives, (Feldshersko-Akusherskaya Shkola), which graduated 100 students, mostly women, every year; the three-year course offered was at the middle-technical-school level.
15. There was no middle school for veterinarians in Kherson. I heard that Tsurypinsk had such a school. Veterinary institutes for the Ukraine were located in Kharkov, Kiev, or Dnepropetrovsk. I believe that there was no shortage of veterinarians.
16. Nurses received formal course work for one year at a special nurses' school in Kherson (at a location unknown to me), after which they received one year of training at a hospital which qualified them as nurses. I believe these nurses were poorly trained and ineffective. There was an adequate supply of nurses in Kherson.

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17. Kherson dentists were either medical school graduates, or technicians who had graduated from a middle school. No apprenticeship was possible for those who wanted to become dental technicians; all prospective technicians had to attend a middle school for dental technicians.

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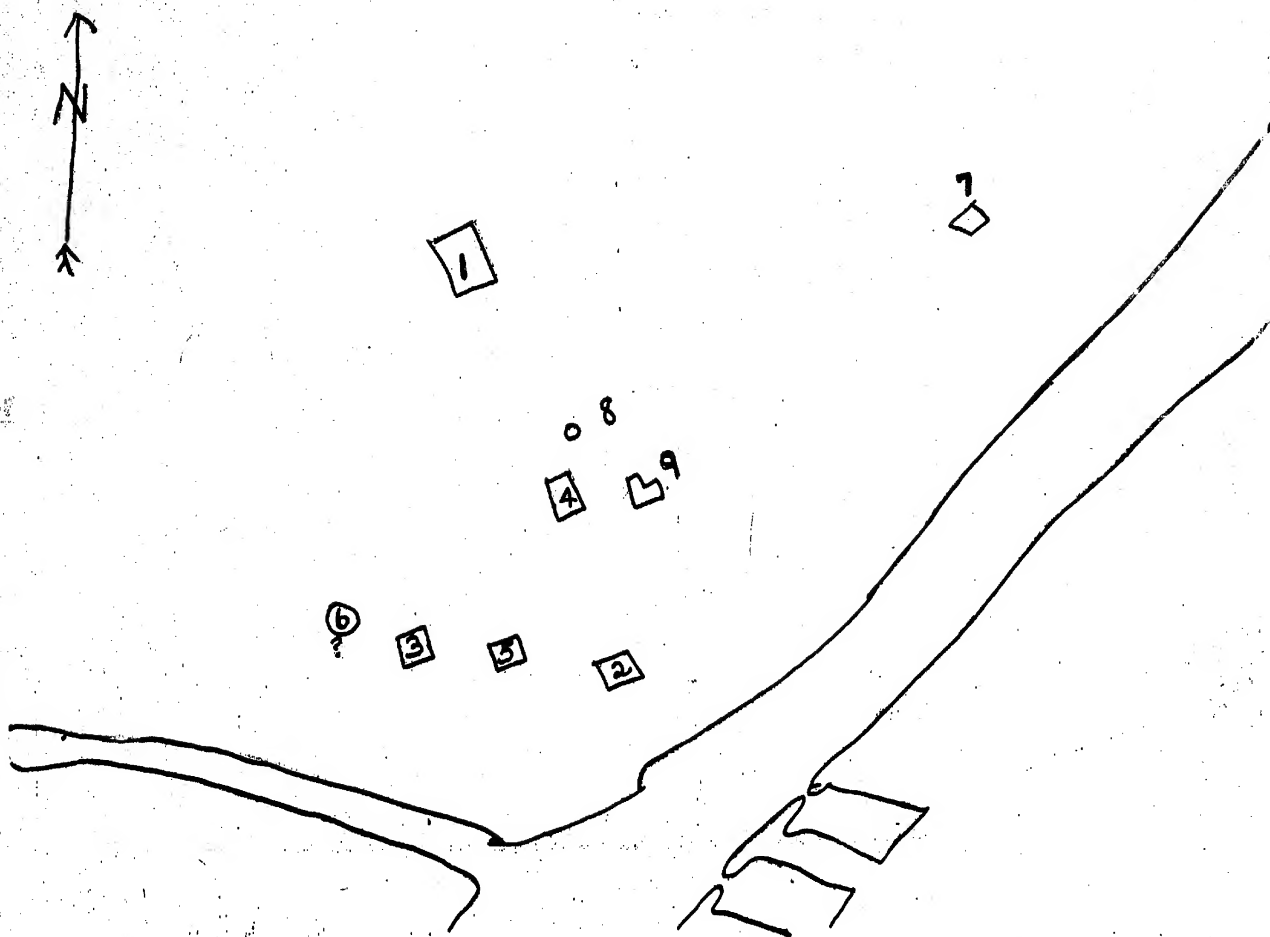
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ENCLOSURE: A

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Sketch of Kherson

Sketch of Kherson



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Overlay ☐
Complex Mosaic -
Series 25 0250-9988-
25-M Kherson (5910)
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Legend for the Sketch of Kherson, page 5:

1. Oblast Hospital and Clinic (Oblastnaya Bolnitsa i Poliklinika).
2. Hospital and Clinic of Water Transport Workers (Bolnitsa-Poliklinika Vodnikov).
3. Clinic Number 3.
4. Hospital for Railroad Employees (Bolnitsa Zheleznodorozhnaya).
5. Tuberculosis Dispensary (Tubdispanser).
6. Malaria Station (probable location) (Protiv-Malyariynaya Stantsiya).
7. Clinic Number (unknown). This clinic was located in a military settlement in Kherson.
8. Water tower (Vodonapornaya Bashnya).
9. Military Hospital (Voyenny Gosptal).

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